



## **Citizens Clean Elections Commission**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTIONS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES THE RELEASE OF 2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

**PHOENIX, Ariz.** (April 11, 2005) – The Citizens Clean Elections Commission (Commission), a state agency that administers the Citizens Clean Elections Act, has released the 2004 Annual Report for public review documenting activities conducted on behalf of the Commission. Pursuant to the Act that established the Commission, the agency is responsible for compiling an annual report at the close of each year chronicling the activities and providing recommendations for the upcoming year.

“The annual report provides the Commission with an opportunity to share its accomplishments over the past year, and to measure the results garnered spanning the past three election cycles,” said Autumn Southard, voter education manager. “The Commission accomplished its 2004 goals and objectives, and is actively working toward surpassing these achievements and success in the 2006 election.”

Highlights from the 2004 Annual Report include:

- With four corporation commission offices and 90 legislative offices up for election, 195 candidates participated in the primary election. Of those 195 candidates, 116, or 59 percent of the candidates, were certified participating candidates to whom the Commission disbursed \$2,246,255.
- In the general election there were a total of 156 candidates, among whom 88, or 56 percent, were participating candidates. The Commission disbursed \$2,111,271 of campaign funding to candidates in the general election.
- Out of 94 elected offices in 2004, participating candidates won 52 percent of the statewide and legislative offices; a 39 percent increase from the 2002 election, and a 17 percent increase from the 2000 election.
- Pursuant to the voter education mandates in the Act, the Commission produced and mailed approximately 3 million Candidate Statement Pamphlets to households with registered voters prior to the start of early voting for both the primary and general elections.
- The Commission partnered with Sun Dial Voter Information Project to ensure that blind and visually impaired voters in Arizona had access to the 2004 Candidate Statement Pamphlets.

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In addition to reviewing the 2004 activities, the Commission provides formal recommendations addressing how the Act can be revised and what areas of the Act should be addressed during the 2005 legislative session.

The full report can be viewed online at the Citizens Clean Elections Commission website: [www.azcleanelections.gov](http://www.azcleanelections.gov).

**About the Citizens Clean Elections Commission**

The Citizens Clean Elections Act, which was passed by voters in 1998, created a new campaign financing system that provides full public funding to qualified candidates who agree to abide by Citizens Clean Elections Commission guidelines. Candidates for statewide and legislative offices are eligible to participate in the public funding program.

To qualify for funding, participating candidates must adhere to strict spending and contribution limits and gather \$5 qualifying contributions from constituents who are registered voters. Participating candidates also agree to attend required debates.

For more information visit the Citizens Clean Elections Commission website: [www.azcleanelections.gov](http://www.azcleanelections.gov).

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